

2007 VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINAL STATUS REPORT

Status of Selected Bills & Resolutions of Interest to Older Virginians and their Families Introduced During the 2007 Session which Adjoined on April 24, 2007

Most bill summaries in this list are abbreviated. For a complete copy of any bill, please contact the General Assembly Bill Room at 804-786-6984. You may also go to the Virginia Division of Legislative Services internet site: <http://legis.state.va.us/>

Note also that many bills have been amended and may be very different from how they were first introduced.

BILL # & PATRON	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
HB 1744 R. Marshall	Increases the income limits in Northern Virginia for eligibility for real estate tax relief for elderly and disabled persons. See also SB 788, SB 1265, HB 2283, HB 2641, HB 2909, HJ 771, SB 1424, & SJ 386.	Passed House. Passed Senate.
HB 1799 J. Cosgrove	Establishes a maximum interest rate for payday loans. Note: this is an issue which impacts many older persons and the Virginia Association of Area Agencies on Aging had an OpEd piece in the Richmond Times Dispatch supporting this legislation. Same as, or similar to: HB 2243, SB 1014,	Left in Commerce & Labor Committee (killed)
HB 1821 T. Suit	Provides a deduction on state individual income taxes of \$6,000 for persons aged 62-64 and \$12,000 for persons age 65 and older. See also HB 2439, HB 2577, HB 2643.	Left in Finance Committee (killed).
HB 2032 Hamilton	Amends the Department for the Aging's Code section to expand the description of long-term care services and includes language promoting consumer choice and independent living opportunities.	Passed House as a substitute. Passed Senate.
HB 2033 P. Hamilton	Amends the role of the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to include leadership for the coordination and implementation of long-term care policy in the Commonwealth. See also SB 1024.	Passed House as a substitute. Passed Senate.
HB 2037 P. Hamilton	Defines "medical assistant" and adds medical assistants to the list of persons authorized to administer drugs. Note: This may impact nursing home and ALF staffs.	Passed House. Passed Senate.
HB 2149 W. Fralin	Requires individual health insurance policies sold in Virginia to include a notice stating whether the policy provides coverage for all medical treatments covered under Medicare Parts A & B.	Left in Commerce & Labor Committee (killed).
HB 2158 J. O'Bannon	Requires the Commissioner of Health and the State Medical Examiner to develop an <i>Adult Fatality Review Team</i> to review suspicious deaths and create a body of information to help prevent future deaths. This bill is supported by VDSS, the Medical Examiner, and the Virginia Coalition for the Prevention	No action in HWI Committee (killed).

BILL # & PATRON	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
	of Elder Abuse. Same As HB 3166.	
HB 2283 V. Watts	Creates a formula for determining the net financial worth of real property with regard to deferring or exempting the real estate tax for elderly and disabled person. See also HB 1744, SB 788, HB 2641, HB 2909, SB 1265, SB 1424, HJ 771, & SJ 386.	Left in Finance Committee (killed).
HB 2290 V. Watts	Requires DMAS to establish a Nursing Facility Quality Improvement Program to improve the health and safety of nursing home residents. Funding will come from the civil monetary penalty funds collected from facilities found in violation of CMS and state regulations.	Passed House. Passed Senate.
HB 2345 R. Bell	Requires nursing homes and ALFs to register with the State Police to receive automatic notification of the registration of sex offenders living within the same zip code area as the facility. See also HB 2346, SB 1228, SB 1207, SB 1210 & SB 1229.	Passed House. Passed Senate.
HB 2346 R. Bell	Requires nursing homes and ALFs to provide all residents with notice of the Virginia Sex Offender Registry and how they can access this registry. See also HB 2345, SB 1207, SB 1210, SB 1228, & SB 1229.	Passed House. Passed Senate.
HB 2372 Dudley	Creates a program for statewide notification of missing adults with dementia similar to the Amber Alert Program for missing children. See also SB 1117.	Passed House. Passed Senate.
HB 2439 J. Frederick	Replaces the current age deduction for state income tax purposes with a deduction of \$7,000 for taxpayers age 62-64 and \$14,000 for taxpayers age 65+ for those persons whose Social Security benefits are \$3,500 or less. See also HB 182, HB 2577, & HB 2463.	Left in Finance Committee (killed).
HB 2561 Brink	Prohibits automatic dialing announcement devices to make calls to health care providers, fire departments or rescue squads. Note: This might impact those personal emergency communications devices that are popular with many older and disabled persons & their families.	Tabled in Commerce & Labor Committee (killed).
HB 2577 S. Shannon	Provides a deduction in state income taxes for those persons borne after 1/1/39 and before 1/2/42 who are already subject to the means test at age 65 for the \$12,000 deduction, be allowed a deduction of no less than \$6,000. See also HB 1821, HB 2439, HB 2643.	Left in Finance Committee (killed).
HB 2607 V. Watts	Requires the establishment of staffing standards in nursing homes that includes a mandatory minimum hours of direct care with reporting of these hours to VDH. Prohibits nursing homes that do not meet these standards from accepting new patients.	Left in HWI Committee (killed).
HB 2608 V. Watts	Provides a state income tax deduction of up to \$10,000 for licensed medical caregivers who provide medical related services to individuals in their homes. Applies to nurses, physical therapists, CNAs, & nurse practitioners. See also HB	Left in Finance Committee (killed).

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	2609.	
HB 2609 V. Watts	Provides a state income tax credit to individuals who pay medical and in-home care expenses for a family member who lives in their home. The credit will be equal to the amount paid for such expenses that are not reimbursed. The credit is reduced for those taxpayer with federal adjusted gross incomes over \$50,000 for single and \$75,000 for married taxpayers. See also HB 2608.	Left in Finance Committee (killed).
HB 2624 J. Reid	Requires state agencies to report by November 15 of each year to the Department for the aging their progress in addressing the impact of the aging of the population. The Department for the aging will submit a summary report to the Governor & General Assembly by June 30 of the following year. Note: this is a follow-up to HB 110 (2006 session) and HJR 103 (2004 Session).	Passed House. Passed Senate.
HB 2636 V. Watts	Requires the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation & Substance Abuse Services to develop a 2-year pilot program in Northern Virginia to provide specialized services to older adults with serious mental illness.	Left in Appropriations Committee (killed).
HB 2641 T. Gear	Requires indexing the income limits each year based upon the CPI for the purposes of real property tax relief for elder and disabled persons in urban areas. See also HB 1744, HB 2283, HB 2643, HB 2909, HJ 771, SB 788, SB 1265, SB 1424, & SJ 386.	Left in Finance Committee (killed).
HB 2643 C. Caputo	Provides for indexing the state income tax relief for older citizens in urban areas based upon the CPI. See also HB 1744, HB 2283, HB 2641, HB 2909, SB 788, SB 1265, SB 1424, & SJ 386.	Left in Finance Committee (killed).
HB 2727 D. Englin	Allows the disabled or elderly tenant of a building which is being converted to a condominium the right to allow the local government, housing agency, or nonprofit housing corporation the exclusive right to purchase his property which shall then be leased back to the tenant at an affordable rent. Note: this is an attempt to protect elderly & disabled condo owners from being forced out when their building is converted to a condo and the purchase price is beyond their means. Same as SB 968.	Passed House. Passed Senate.
HB 2738 D. Englin	For Virginia's Minimum Wage Act, repeals the exclusion of persons age 65 and older. See also SB 758.	Passed House. Passed Senate.
HB 2810 M. Sickles	Provides a state income tax credit for certain drug expenses paid by the taxpayer and that were incurred as a result of the coverage gap period under the Medicare Part D prescription drug program (the "donut hole").	Left in Finance Committee (killed).
HB 2909 L Spruill	Allows localities to grant higher percentages of real property tax relief to the elderly based on increasing age, especially for those	Left in Finance Committee (killed).

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	ages 75 and older. See also HB 1744, HB 2283, HB 2641, HB 2643, HB 3641, HJ 771, SB 788, SB 1265, SB 1424, & SJ 386.	
HB 2911 L. Spruill	Allows persons age 65 and older to vote absentee ballots during elections. See also SB 1274.	Tabled in P&E Subcommittee (killed).
HB 3166 Ebbin	Requires the Commissioner of Health and the State Medical Examiner to develop an <i>Adult Fatality Review Team</i> to review suspicious deaths and create a body of information to help prevent future deaths. Note: This bill is supported by VDSS, the Medical Examiner, and the Virginia Coalition for the Prevention of Elder Abuse. See also HB 2158.	Left in Appropriations Committee (killed).
HB 3207 C. Peace	Allows the resident of an assisted living facility to remain in the facility even if he no longer meets the licensing requirements as an ALF resident if the family, physician, and facility agree that he can remain.	Passed House. Passed Senate.
HJR 592 J. Cosgrove	Commends the work of Project Lifesaver (founded in Virginia) in locating lost persons who suffer from Alzheimer's disease, autism, and other medical conditions. Same as SJ 428 submitted by Senator Blevins (not listed on this chart).	Passed House. Passed Senate.
HJR 595 Dance	Encourages DMAS to include the management of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) as a Medicaid service.	Tabled in HWI Committee (Killed).
HJR 631 C. Carrico	Requests the Board of Nursing to study pay rates for various nursing occupations including CNAs. Note: This issue is important to aging advocates since so many CNAs work in nursing homes, ALFs, and home care programs.	Left in Rules tee (killed).
HJ 643 H. Purkey	Establishes a joint subcommittee to study how Virginia should address the existing and upcoming shortage of doctors. Note: this issue has already been studied by the Joint Commission on Health Care.	Left in Rules Committee (killed).
HJ 704 K. Amundson	Establishes a joint subcommittee to study the creation of a prepaid long-term care program modeled after the Virginia college tuition savings plan to help people save for their long-term care needs.	Left in Rules Committee (killed).
HJ 710 C. Hogan	Notes the vulnerable status of elderly and disabled adults in group homes that may be subject to financial fraud. Requests that JLARC examine and propose standards for financial review of the operation of group homes for less than four adults and review the disbursement of their federal public benefits.	Left in Rules Committee (killed).
SB 758 W. Stosch	For Virginia's Minimum Wage Act, repeals the exclusion of persons age 65 and older. See also HB 2738.	Passed Senate. Passed House.
HJ 771 J. Miller	Proposes a Constitutional Amendment that would authorize the General Assembly to provide for increases in property tax exemptions for persons 65 and older based upon the increase in	Left in P&E Committee (killed).

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	the age of this population. See also SB 788, SB 1265, HB 2283, HB 2641, HB 2909, SB 1424, & SJ 386.	
SB 788 W. Stosch	Increases the income limits that local governments can adopt for eligibility for real estate tax relief for elderly and disabled persons. See also HB 1744, HB 2283, HB 2641, HB 2643, HB 2909, SB 1265, SB 1424, & SJ 386.	Passed Senate. Passed House.
SB 790 W. Stosch	Amends the Virginia Caregiver Grant program to include caregivers related by blood, marriage, or adoption..... including a legally appointed guardian.	Passed Senate. Passed House.
SB 806 L. Puller	Exempts charitable organizations that distribute food to the needy from having to comply with state and local regulations that require commercial grade kitchens. Includes volunteers who may prepare meals in their homes. Note: this bill is targeted to those organizations that feed the homeless but may have an impact on some home delivered meals programs. Same as, or similar to: SB 917, SB 1125, HB 2218, HB 2258, (these bills are not listed on this chart).	Passed Senate (as a substitute). Passed House.
SB 954 F. Quayle	Allows the Department for the Aging to use any income tax refund contributions received for transportation services to also use these funds to provide counseling around Medicare Part D. VDA already receives income tax refund contributions to enhance transportation services for elderly and disabled. Note: The substitute creates a new check off block.	Passed Senate as a substitute. Passed House.
SB 968 Whipple	Allows the disabled or elderly tenant of a building which is being converted to a condominium the right to allow the local government, housing agency, or nonprofit housing corporation the exclusive right to purchase his property which shall then be leased back to the tenant at an affordable rent. Note: this is an attempt to protect elderly & disabled condo owners from being forced out when their building is converted to a condo and the purchase price is beyond their means. Same as HB 2727.	Passed Senate. Passed House.
SB 1024 L. Puller	Clarifies that the Secretary of HHR is responsible for coordinating the work of state agencies to implement long-term care policy, <u>including</u> services that would ordinarily fall under other secretariats such as transportation, commerce and trade, & education. See also HB 2033.	Passed Senate as a substitute. Passed House.
SB 1117 Rerras	Creates a program for statewide notification of missing or impaired adults similar to the Amber Alert Program for missing children. See also HB 2372.	Passed Senate. Passed House as amended.
SB 1207 Hanger	Allows those public agencies that are required to do so by law to obtain a criminal background checks. Limits how this information is shared. See also HB 2345, HB 2346, SB 1210, SB 1228, & SB 1229.	Passed Senate. Passed House.

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SB 1210 Hanger	Requires any business or organization that is required to conduct criminal background checks to bear the costs of these checks (unless it can recoup the costs from the applicant). See also HB 2345, HB 2346, SB 1207, SB 1228, & SB 1229.	Stricken at request of patron (killed).
SB 1228 J. Howell	Requires nursing homes and ALFs to provide all residents with notice of the Virginia Sex Offender Registry and how they can access this registry. See also SB 1229, HB 2346 & HB 2345, SB 1207, & SB 1210.	Passed Senate. Passed House.
SB 1229 J. Howell	Requires nursing homes and ALFs to register with the State Police to receive automatic notification of the registration of sex offenders living within the same zip code area as the facility. See also SB 1207, SB 1210, SB 1228, HB 2345 & HB 2346.	Passed Senate. Passed House.
SB 1265 Herring	Allows local governments to extend property tax relief for elderly and disabled persons to those buildings jointly owned by persons who may not all be aged or disabled. See also HB 1744, HB 2283, HB 2641, HB 2643, HB 2909, & SB 386, SB 1424, & SB 788, & SJR 386.	Passed Senate as a substitute. Passed House.
SB 1274 Whipple	Allows persons with medical conditions that make it impossible for them to get to the polls to vote using an absentee ballot. Allows the caregiver for such a person to vote absentee if they are unable to leave their patient. Includes "age" as an acceptable medical condition requiring continuous care. See also HB 2911.	Left in Senate Committee (killed).
SB 1325 Reynolds	Requires Medicaid to pay medical assistance to aged and disabled individuals with incomes up to 100% of poverty.	Passed Senate. Left in Committee (killed).
SB 1424 F. Quayle	Allows localities to grant higher percentages of property tax relief to the elderly based on increasing age, especially for those who are age 75 and older. See also HB 1744, SB 788, SB 1265, HB 2283, HB 2641, HB 2909, HJ 771, & SJ 386.	Passed Senate. Tabled Finance (killed).
SJR 386 F. Wagner	Allows local governments to exempt, defer, or freeze real estate taxes for persons age 65 and older or persons disabled regardless of annual income or net worth. See also HB 1744, HB 2283, HB 2641, HB 2643, HB 2909, HJ 771, SB 1265 & SB 788.	Referred to Senate Privileges and Elections. Incorporated into SJR 354 & left in committee.

*Developed by the Virginia Department for the Aging
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